

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1           1.       An electrode-pad storage cartridge, comprising:  
2           a housing having an interior and removably attachable to a defibrillator;  
3           an electrode pad disposed within the interior; and  
4           a power source disposed in the interior and operable to provide power to the  
5           defibrillator when the housing is attached to the defibrillator.
- 1           2.       The cartridge of claim 1, further comprising:  
2           a first connector attached to the housing and operable to electrically couple  
3           the electrode pads to the defibrillator; and  
4           a second connector attached to the housing and operable to electrically  
5           couple the power source to the defibrillator.
- 1           3.       The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the power source comprises a battery.
- 1           4.       The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the power source comprises an  
2           alkaline battery.
- 1           5.       The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the power source comprises a lithium  
2           ion battery.
- 1           6.       The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the power source comprises an  
2           alkaline battery and a lithium ion battery.
- 1           7.       The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the power source comprises a fuel cell.
- 1           8.       The cartridge of claim 1, further comprising:  
2           wherein the power source comprises a fuel cell; and  
3           a fuel reservoir coupled to the fuel cell.
- 1           9.       The cartridge of claim 1 wherein:  
2           the interior has first and second portions;  
3           the electrode pad is disposed in the first portion; and  
4           the power source is disposed in the second portion.
- 1           10.      The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the power source is operable to  
2           provide power to charge a battery disposed in the defibrillator.

1 11. The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the power source is operable to  
2 provide power to operate the defibrillator.

1 12. The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the housing is formed from a rigid  
2 material.

1 13. A defibrillator system, comprising:  
2 a defibrillator; and  
3 a cartridge, comprising,  
4 a cartridge housing having an interior and removably attachable to the  
5 defibrillator,  
6 an electrode pad disposed within the interior of the housing, and  
7 a power source disposed within the interior of the housing and operable  
8 to provide power to the defibrillator when the housing is attached to the  
9 defibrillator.

1 14. The defibrillator system of claim 13 wherein the defibrillator comprises  
2 an automated or semi automated external defibrillator.

1 15. The defibrillator system of claim 13 wherein the defibrillator comprises a  
2 battery and is operable to recharge the battery with power provided by the power  
3 source.

1 16. The defibrillator system of claim 13 wherein the defibrillator comprises a  
2 battery and is operable to maintain a predetermined charge on the battery using the  
3 power provided by the power source.

1 17. The defibrillator system of claim 13 wherein:  
2 the defibrillator comprises circuitry; and  
3 the power source is operable to power the circuitry.

1 18. A defibrillator, comprising:  
2 circuitry;  
3 a first receptacle operable to receive a first battery for providing power to the  
4 circuitry; and  
5 a second receptacle operable to receive a self-contained power source for  
6 charging the first battery.

1 19. The defibrillator of claim 18, further comprising:  
2 a casing; and  
3 wherein the first receptacle comprises a compartment disposed within the  
4 casing.

1 20. The defibrillator of claim 18, further comprising:  
2 a casing;  
3 wherein the second receptacle comprises a compartment disposed within the  
4 casing.

1 21. The defibrillator of claim 18 wherein the self-contained power source  
2 comprises a battery.

1 22. The defibrillator of claim 18 wherein the self-contained power source  
2 comprises a fuel cell.

1 23. The defibrillator of claim 18 wherein the self-contained power source  
2 comprises:

3 a fuel cell; and  
4 a fuel reservoir coupled to the fuel cell.

1 24. A defibrillator system, comprising:  
2 a defibrillator for generating a defibrillation shock; and  
3 one and only one field-replaceable component that is attachable to the  
4 defibrillator.

1 25. The defibrillator system of claim 24 wherein the field-replaceable  
2 component comprises an electrode-pad storage cartridge including:  
3 a housing having an interior and removably attachable to the defibrillator,  
4 an electrode pad disposed within the interior, and  
5 a power source disposed in the interior and operable to provide power to the  
6 defibrillator when the housing is attached to the defibrillator.

1 26. The defibrillator system of claim 24 wherein:  
2 the defibrillator comprises a battery operable to power the defibrillator; and  
3 the field-replaceable component comprises an electrode-pad storage cartridge  
4 including,

5 a housing having an interior and removably attachable to the  
 6 defibrillator,  
 7 an electrode pad disposed within the interior, and  
 8 a power source disposed in the interior and operable to charge the  
 9 battery when the housing is attached to the defibrillator.

1 27. A defibrillator, comprising:  
 2 circuitry; and  
 3 a fuel cell for providing power to the circuitry.

1 28. The defibrillator of claim 27, further comprising a reservoir operable to  
 2 store fuel for the fuel cell.

1 29. A method, comprising:  
 2 connecting a self-contained power source to a defibrillator having a battery;  
 3 and  
 4 charging the battery with the power source.

1 30. The method of claim 29, wherein the step of connecting comprises  
 2 attaching a cartridge to the defibrillator, the cartridge having the power source and an  
 3 electrode pad.

1 31. The method of claim 29, further comprising:  
 2 monitoring the power source; and  
 3 generating an alarm when the power source has a charge level that is lower  
 4 than a predetermined level.

1 32. The method of claim 29, further comprising:  
 2 monitoring the battery; and  
 3 generating an alarm when the battery has a charge level that is lower than a  
 4 predetermined level.

1 33. A method, comprising:  
 2 inserting a cartridge into a defibrillator, the cartridge having a power source  
 3 and an electrode pad; and  
 4 powering the defibrillator with the power source.

1           34.    The method of claim 33 wherein powering comprises charging a battery  
2   with the power source, the battery disposed within the defibrillator.

1           35.    The method of claim 33 wherein powering comprises powering a circuit  
2   with the power source, the circuit disposed within the defibrillator.

1           36.    The method of claim 33 wherein powering comprises powering a circuit  
2   with the power source and a battery, the circuit and battery disposed within the  
3   defibrillator.

1           37.    The method of claim 33, further comprising:  
2   monitoring a charge level of the power source; and  
3   replacing the cartridge when the charge level is below a predetermined level.

1           38.    The method of claim 33, further comprising:  
2   monitoring a charge level of a battery disposed within the defibrillator;  
3   wherein powering the defibrillator comprises charging the battery with the  
4   power source; and  
5   replacing the cartridge when the charge level is below a predetermined level.